

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration of the rejections contained in the Office Action of July 20, 2006 is respectfully requested.

By this Amendment, claims 2-4 have been amended, and claims 1 and 6 have been cancelled. Thus, claims 2-5 are currently pending. No new matter has been added by these amendments.

On page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. In particular, the Examiner asserted that the phrase "pressure oil" is indefinite, and suggested that the phrase "pressure oil" be replaced with either "oil" or "pressurized oil." Accordingly, claims 2-4 have been amended so as to recite "oil" or "pressurized oil" instead of "pressure oil." Claim 5 does not recite "pressure oil," and as mentioned above, claims 1 and 6 have been cancelled. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's rejection under § 112 is no longer applicable to claims 2-5.

On pages 2-3 of the Office Action, claims 1 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Treer (US 2,007,290). However, as indicated above, claims 1 and 6 have been cancelled. Therefore, in view of the cancellation of claims 1 and 6, the rejections under § 102(b) are rendered moot.

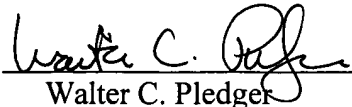
On page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 2-5 would be allowable if amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. In order to place the claims in condition for allowance, claims 1 and 6 have been cancelled, and claims 2-5 have been amended to overcome the rejection under § 112, as discussed above. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 2 and 3, as well as claims 4 and 5 which depend therefrom, are clearly allowable over the prior art of record.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is clearly in condition for allowance. An early notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

If, after reviewing this Amendment, the Examiner feels there are any issues remaining which must be resolved before the application can be passed to issue, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone in order to resolve such issues.

Respectfully submitted,

Shigeki KODANI

By: 
Walter C. Pledger
Registration No. 55,540
Attorney for Applicant

WCP/MSH/akl
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021
Telephone (202) 721-8200
Facsimile (202) 721-8250
October 17, 2006